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Kennedy Death Plot Charged

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP) — Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison said yesterday a plan was developed in New Orleans which culminated in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. He added, "Arrests will be made."

"There were other people besides Lee Harvey Oswald involved," the prosecutor said in an interview. "New Orleans was a factor in the planning beyond a shadow of a doubt."

Garrison said an investigation by his office shows the Warren Commission report is inaccurate in stating Oswald acted alone in the assassination of Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963 in Dallas.

Claims Jurisdiction

"We already have the names of the people in the initial planning," Garrison told The Associated Press. "We are not wasting our time and we will prove it. Arrests will be made. Charges will be filed and convictions will be obtained."

Garrison said his office had jurisdiction in the case because of a Louisiana law "which forbids conspiracy of any kind."

Asked why he started the probe, Garrison replied: "Last November I began looking into the question because Oswald had spent six months in New Orleans shortly before the assassination.

"I went through the 26 volumes of the Warren report and there were some questions raised. As a result, I began the investigation. The investigation led to new leads, which we followed out and other leads were uncovered."

First disclosure of the probe came Friday in a copyrighted story by the New Orleans States-Item.

"We were making good progress until the publicity," Garrison said.

Commission Held Lacking

Garrison said the Warren Commission was "composed of the highest type of men" but it "did not have sufficient evaluation machinery."

Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., who was a member of the Warren Commission, said in Washington that if the district attorney has "information he should transmit it to the attorney general, who I assume would transmit it immediately to the President."

The Secret Service, the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, contacted in Washington, said there would be no comment.

McCloy Calls for Evidence

Chief Justice Earl Warren, who headed the Warren Commission, indicated Friday he would have no comment on stories developing in New Orleans about the assassination.

In Stamford, Conn., John J. McCloy, a member of the Warren Commission, said "Let's see what his evidence is."

"We are always aware that some evidence might turn up in this matter and we know that time is a factor in the favor of someone hunting such evidence," McCloy explained, adding:

"We did not say that Oswald acted alone. We said we could find no credible evidence that he acted with anyone else."

McCloy said the commission investigated Oswald's activities in New Orleans and "the investigation, at least at that time, didn't produce anything."

At an earlier news conference, Garrison said his investigators have uncovered facts which "are interesting."

Concerned About Prisoner

He said that a prisoner in the Orleans Parish jail now possibly has his life in jeopardy as a result of the publicity given the probe. He did not name the prisoner.

The States-Item said Miguel Torres, a 26-year-old Cuban who formerly lived only a block from Oswald's last known New Orleans address, was brought from the Louisiana state prison at Angola to the Orleans Parish jail on Jan. 30.

Torres, the account said, is serving three concurrent nine-year terms for burglaries and "he is known to be connected with the DA's investigation."

Questioned on Manchester Book

At the news conference, Garrison was questioned about William Manchester's book, "The Death of a President," in which the author says Oswald acted alone.

"Manchester wasn't there at the assassination," Garrison said. "Neither was I, but my office has spent considerable more time investigating the assassination than Manchester did and it is my belief that man was wrong."

Garrison, asked if he felt a new federal probe should be launched into the Kennedy assassination, replied: "There should be several concurrent investigations and the important

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thing is that the evidence should be evaluated."

The States-Item said Garrison's office is seeking a "physically powerful and dangerous" Cuban man who "is believed to be one of a group of Cubans who reportedly hid behind a billboard on the parade route in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963."

The States-Item said Garrison and his assistants were in Miami in January hunting for the Cuban. The man now is believed to have fled to Cuba, Puerto Rico or possibly the Bahamas, the article said.

"The investigators who searched Miami inside and out for the Cuban were flashing his picture, taken on a New Orleans street while he was distributing 'Fair Play for Cuba' pamphlets with Oswald," the States-Item said. Oswald lived in New Orleans the summer of 1963.